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**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Pollution Report**

I. HEADINGS

DATE: May 8, 2001

SUBJECT: Pollution Report for the Bowers Battery Site, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

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POLREP 1 and Initial - PRP Removal

II. BACKGROUND

Site No:	B5S9
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
Response Authority	CERCLA
State Notification:	Ohio EPA
Mobilization Date:	April 25, 2001
Completion Date:	TBD
Latitude:	40°29'54.5" N
Longitude:	81°27'10.0" W
CERCLA Incident Category:	Removal - PRP-Lead

III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category: Removal- PRP-lead

B. Site Description

1. Site Location and Background

The Bowers Battery Site (Site) encompasses four properties which are located at the intersection of 5th Street NW and Park Avenue NW in New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County, Ohio. The geographical coordinates of the Site are latitude 40°29'54.5"N and longitude 81°27'10.0"W. The four properties including the front and/or back yards of three residences and an additional residence and gravel parking lot of a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Club. The overturned soil, where the batteries were originally

observed, is located in the back yard of 463 5th Street NW which is bordered by the rear parking lot for the VFW. The Site is bordered to the north by a light industrial property and the gravel parking lot (previously a railroad bed); to the east by a brick building; to the south by the gravel parking lot and two residences on Park Avenue NW, and to the west by 5th Street NW.

The resident at 463 5th Street NW observed buried car batteries and other debris when a backhoe was utilized to overturn soil in his back yard in order to put in a garden. The Bowers Battery Company was previously located on the property of VFW. The VFW occupies the only building that still remains on this property.

U.S. EPA has conducted a site assessment and a supplemental sampling utilizing the START contractor to verify lead contamination and define the general extent of contamination at the site.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current situation

Exide Battery, Inc., current owner of the former Bowers Battery by line of mergers and acquisitions and hereafter referred to as potentially responsible party (PRP), signed an Administrative Order by Consent (AOC) with U.S. EPA agreeing to remediate the lead contamination at the Site. A site specific Work Plan and Health and Safety Plan were generated by one of the two PRP contractors. The plans were reviewed and conditionally approved by U.S. EPA on April 10, 2001.

2. Removal actions to date:

On April 25, 2001, U.S. EPA, START, and a PRP contractor mobilized to the site to initiate delineation sampling for defining the actual on-site areas to be excavated. Sample points were demarcated in areas which would define the outer edges of the excavations on all four properties. A total of 13 sample locations were selected. Two samples, a 0 inch to 6 inch below ground surface (bgs) and a 6 inch to 12 inch bgs, were collected at each sample location. U.S. EPA split all samples and sent selected samples to an independent laboratory for analysis of total lead.

On April 26, 2001, delineation sampling continued. 26 sample location were selected and two samples were collected from each location as stated above. Authorization for the three properties not included as part of the VFW property was for sample collection only. No access has yet been received from these residents for remediation. All parties demobilized to await sample results.

On May 1, 2001, START and the PRP contractor mobilized to site to collect additional delineation samples. 15 sample locations were demarcated with two samples collected and split from each location. Samples collected today were also selected to attempt to define the outer edge of proposed excavation areas.

On May 2, 2001, sampling activities were conducted on two of the residential properties and

consisted of soils beneath the driveway. The cement driveways were cored through, the first layer of gravel was removed, and the samples were collected as described above. Two locations were selected and sampled in each driveway.

On May 3, 2001, the PRP labor contractor arrived on site and conduct site preparatory work.

On May 4, 2001, excavation activities began. The first area excavated was in the southeast corner of the VFW south parking lot. After completion of the excavation in this area, 7 confirmatory samples were collected and sent to an off-site laboratory for analysis. The PRP contractor dedicated the eastern one-half of the north VFW gravel parking lot as the excavated soil staging area. Based on previous sampling by the PRP contractor, the soils from this area are not slated to be treated prior to disposal. The soils from the area just to the north of the VFW throughout the remainder of the northern excavation areas is slated to be treated and tested for toxicity characteristic leaching procedure (TCLP) lead prior to off-site disposal.

On May 5, 2001, the PRP contractors began excavation of the south/southwest gravel lot of the VFW. The initial excavation in this area was 85 feet wide and continued north approximately 20 feet past the north wall of the VFW. This is the only other area slated for excavation in which the excavated soils are not being treated prior to disposal (pending TCLP analysis). 12 sample locations, roughly in a 50-foot grid pattern, were demarcated and sampled from the excavated area. Three additional "suspect" material locations were also sampled. The confirmatory sample locations consist of 1 sample collected from 0 inches to 6 inches bgs. Also, a composite sample from the current stockpile was collect for analysis of TCLP lead. No work was scheduled for Sunday, May 6, 2001.

On May 7, 2001, excavation and confirmatory sampling activities continued. 7 confirmatory samples were collected and split from this area. The excavation of the area where the excavated material is not being treated prior to disposal is complete and a sample of the material excavated today was collected for TCLP lead analysis. The remainder of the material excavated from the site will be treated and sampled for TCLP lead prior to off-site disposal. The PRP contractor also initiated construction of an on-site mixing pit in the north portion of the gravel lot. Approximately 800 yards of excavated material is staged on site.

B. Next Steps

- Continue PRP oversight and split sample collection.
- Review sample analytical data.

C. Key Issues

- Access to remediate the property adjacent to the VFW property on Park Avenue NW has been denied.
- Access to the other two residential properties on 5th Street NW has not yet been received for remediation activities.

V. Disposition of Wastes

- None.